

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] Figures 3A and 3B show the proliferative responses of SFMC from patients with oJIA (Figure 3A) or HLA B27+ patients (Figure 3B) incubated with recombinant *E. coli* hsp dnaJ peptides 4, 22, 61, 174, 209, 242, 264 and 268 (SEQ ID NOS: 1-8, respectively) for 72 hours, and restimulated with autologous irradiated feeder cells in presence or absence of an unrelated control peptide (OVA), or *E. coli* hsp derived peptides (as indicated). Results, expressed as stimulation index (SI), are shown as mean+SD.

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] Figure 4 shows IL-10 production in culture supernatants of SFMC from oJIA patients stimulated for 72 hours with *E. coli* hsp dnaJ peptides 4, 22 and 174 (SEQ ID NOS: 1, 2 and 4, respectively), and restimulated with autologous irradiated feeder cells presenting human peptide homologous peptides 2, 3, 5, 20, 21, 23, 164, 167, 176 (SEQ ID NOS: 9-17, respectively) or non homologous to bacterial peptides 50, 51, 134, 197, 254, 256, 270, 283 and 318 (SEQ ID NOS: 18-26, respectively). Results, expressed as pg/ml, are shown as mean+SD.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] Figure 5 shows IL-10 production in culture supernatants of SFMC from oJIA patients stimulated for 72 hours with *E. coli* hsp dnaJ 4, 22 and 174 (SEQ ID NOS: 1, 2 and 4, respectively), and restimulated with autologous irradiated feeder cells presenting homologous peptides 2, 3, 5, 20, 21, 23, 164, 167, 176 (SEQ ID NOS: 9-17, respectively) or non-homologous human peptides 50, 51, 134, 197, 254, 256, 270, 283 and 318 (SEQ ID NOS: 18-26, respectively) (as indicated). Results, expressed as pg/ml, are shown as mean+SD.

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Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] Figures 19 to 22 show the SI, TNF $\alpha$ , IFN $\gamma$ , and IL-10 levels, respectively, in response to bacterial dnaJ 22 (SEQ ID NO: 2) and its human homologues, 20 (HSJ1), 21 (HDJ2), and 23 (HSJ1) (SEQ ID NOS: 12-14, respectively).

Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph:

[0034] Figure 23 shows the proliferative responses to various bacterial dnaJ peptides 4, 22, 61, 174, 209, 242, 264 and 268 (SEQ ID NOS: 1-8, respectively) in patients with oJIA ("oligo") as compared to patients with forms of JIA other than oJIA ("syst/poly"). Results are expressed as SI (bars indicate SD). pandr and dnaJpv are control peptides.

Please replace paragraph [0035] with the following amended paragraph:

[0035] Figure 24A shows the percent of CTLA4/CD25 positive cells in response to stimulation with peptides 174 and 134 (SEQ ID NOS: 4 and 20, respectively). "TC" indicates tissue culture not stimulated. Bars represent SD.

Please replace paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] Figure 24B shows IL-10 production by SFMC of oJIA patients stimulated with peptides 174 and 134 (SEQ ID NOS: 4 and 20, respectively), expressed as pg/ml.

Please replace paragraph [0037] with the following amended paragraph:

[0037] Figures 25A to 25C show the proliferative response (SI; Figure 25A) and production of IFN $\gamma$  (Figure 25B) or IL-10 (Figure 25C) by SFMC of oJIA patients stimulated with various non-homologous human peptides, as indicated 50, 51, 134, 197, 254, 256, 270, 283 and 318 (SEQ ID NOS: 18-26, respectively).